TEUTONS CONTINUE DOBRUDJA ADVANCE

Russians, Still Falling Back, Are Near Danube Mouth-Moldavia Line in Peril.

QUIET ON OTHER FRONTS

In France Only Artillery Activity Is Reported by War Offices.

Lennon, Dec. 22.-News to-day from the various battle fronts reported very little fighting.

Gen. Sakharoff's Russian army in the porthern Dobrudia has been forced again to retreat and is now very near the mouth of the Danube, the southern boundary of the Russian province of Bessarabia. Berlin so reports and Petrograd admits that Sakharoff has been forced back by heavy attacks by su perior Teutonic forces. Berlin reports the capture of 900 Russians.

Russian infantry drove a Bulgarian force into the lcy water of Lake Ibolata. one of the many lakes in the northern Dobrudia, Petrograd announces. Many Bulgarians were drowned and 115 were

If the Russians do not succeed in making a successful stand in the Dobrudja almost immediately the situation of the forces on the southern boundary of Mol-davia will be serious, for their flank will be turned.

Little Fighting in Galicia.

On the remainder of the Russian front e has been fighting at various points but not of a decisive character. Ger-man troops have raided Russian ad-vanced positions in Galicia, damaging works and making prisoners, and a Rus night attack in the Trotus Valley, on the Moldavian western frontier was leed by the Teutons.

any points from the North Sea to the guns took part in a lively duel. A Ger man raid on British trenches on the bardment at Verdun was heavy and at other points French infantry made

Russiana Retreat in Dobrudja. The Russian official statement says: Rumanian front: On the left bank of the Danube active attempts by the enemy to attack us were repulsed by

our fire.

In the Dobrudja the enemy with superior forces attacked our detachments along the whole front. After

ward.

By a daring attack of one of our regiments the Bulgarians who had advanced to the east of Lake Babadagh from the village of Enisal were thrown into Lake Ibolata and a greater part of them were drowned. One hundred and fiften were taken

Western front: On the River Stokhod, in the region of the village of Golenin, our scouts made a success ful reconnaissance, capturing seven An official communication from the British War Office issued this evening

A satisfactory report has been re-ceived from the British military mis-sion in Rumania of the destruction under orders of the Rumanian Government of the oil wells and refineries in and near the principal oil fields.

The official report issued by the Berlin War Office says:
Eastern War Theatre, Front of Prince Leopoid—Along the Drena and on the Stokhod the Russian artillery fire continued for a long time. An advance of two hostile companies southeast of Riga was repulsed. Northwest of Zaloctse (Gallcia) German advance troops entered both the most advanced positions of the Russians and the village of Zvyzyn and returned after destroying four mine throwers and capturing thirty-four prisoners and two machine guns.

Front of Archduke Joseph—A hostile night attack on Csuedlemer, north of the Trotus Valley, failed.

Army Group of Field Marshal von Mackensen—In Great Wallachia the situation is unchanged.

The Dobrudja army continues to make progress and has taken 900 prisoners from the Russians.

Western Theatre—Near the coast, in the Somme sector and on the east bank of the Meuse, the artillery activity increased during the afternoon hours. On the Yser a Belgian outpost was taken. The official report issued by the Berlin

the British War Office says: Last night (Thursday) the enemy bombarded our front on the south bank of the Ancre. We repulsed an attempted taid opposite the Hohenzollern redoubt During the day (Friday) considerable artillery activity prevailed on both sides of the Ypres-Messines areas. North of the Ancre our artillery dis-Persed some enemy working parties.
The official communication issued b
the French War office says:
In the course of the day rather spir-

ited artillery fighting took place in the region of Hardaument work, Louve-mont and the Chambrettes farm (Verdun region). Several surprise attacks which were carried out to the east of St. Mihlel, in the Gerechants wood, at Chapelette, north of Celles (Vosges) and in the Fave Valley, enabled us to destroy small enemy outposts and to bring back some prisoners. Helgian communication: On the southern portion of the Helgian front

the bomb and artillery struggle has been very violent. Outfield and trench batteries silenced the enemy artillery.

BRITISH CAPTURE EL ARISH.

Drive Turks From Important Town

East of Sues Canal.

Lennon, Dec. 22.—El Arish, ninety miles east of the Sucz Canal, was cap-tured yesterday by the British. The British official statement says: "Yesterday the Egyptian town of El "Yesterday the Egyptian town of El Arish was occupied by our troops after being for two years in the hands of the enemy. From the fact that the enemy had constructed a very strong intrenched position covering El Arish and that a large amount of work recently had been carried out there it appeared that the enemy had every intention of offering a stubborn resistance. "They abandoned their positions on Tuesday night and retreated to the east and to the southeast. It is a sorious hiow to the Turks from a moral and a military point of view.

El Arish is a fortified town of Expet on the Mediterranean near the frontier of Palestine, in territory which had been held by the Turks since the time of their invasion of Egypt and un-

nilitary point of view.

Alfred C. Bedford.



Successor to the late John D. Archbold as president of the Stan-dard Oil Company.

DEPORTED BELGIANS INCLUDED WORKERS

Official Report Refutes German Assertion Only Unemployed Were Taken.

HAVRE, Dec. 22 .- Specific details of without work were deported, were communicated to the Associated Press to-day by Fernand Passelecq, director of the documentary bureau of the Belgian

War Ministry. "The German pretension that errors in judging the social condition of those deported were involuntary and imputing them to the bad faith of the Belgian

them to the bad faith of the Belgian authorities is entirely contrary to the facts," said M. Passelecu.

"At Quaregnon, in the coal region south of Mons, 3,000 workmen were summoned and 304 deported; of these 227 never had been out of work. At Dour 137 were taken, of whom 117 were working; at Wasmes 186 were deported, of whom 130 were working; at Frameries 200 were deported, of whom 130 were working; at Frameries 200 were deported, of whom 187 were working; at Hornu 140 were of whom 130 were working; at Frameries 200 were deported, of whom
187 were working; at Hornu 140 were
deported, of whom 87 were working;
at Ohlin 156 were taken, of whom 46
were working. At Havre, Belgium, the
Mayor of the town offered to give proofs
concerning whether the men were employed or not. The offer was refused.
"Forty-six men, all regularly employed

Forty-six men, all regularly employed the Baume-Marpent rolling mills at at the Baume-Marpent rolling mills at Haine St. Pierre, were taken. From the Gilson works at La Croyere fifty em-ployees were taken out of a total of 225 summoned. From the works at De Louve ployees were taken out of a total of 225 aummoned. From the works at De Louve fifty workmen were taken. Fifty-one lironworkers were arrested in the rolling members of the "Standard Oil group," were taken from the 130 aummoned from the 130 arrested from the standard Oil group," were taken from the 130 aummoned from the directorate of the standard Oil group."

five workmen were taken. From the blass furnaces and foundries at La Louviere 70 per cent. of the total number of the Corn Products Refining Company, and Charles E. Bedford, head over employed were seized, making it impossible for the works to continue operaions. From the Boel works at La ouviere 259 men regularly employed were taken, including the office manager, ten office employees, twenty-one foremen

and 217 workmen.
"The glass works at Jemappes, the district, resumed work December 4, 1915, and worked without interruption, in-creasing its output, until November 1,

creasing its output, until November 1, 1916, when it was shut down for repairs until November 10 with the intention of increasing the production.

"More than half the skilled workmen at these works were arrested and deported, including 40 per cent, of the blowers, 60 per cent, of the first class apprentices, 32 per cent, of the second class apprentices, 35 per cent, of the extenders and all the electricians and ad-

"Germany released a few hundred out of the 100,000 taken to make a show of magnanimity. The releases were not spontaneous, but were the result of the pressing representations made by the

A. C. BEDFORD IS NEW SAD XMAS FOR MANY STANDARD OIL HEAD

Successor of Late John D. Archbold Was Favored by Latter for His Place.

Climbed From Lowest Rung of Ladder.

Alfred Coffin Bedford was elected pres ident of the Standard Oil Company of New Jersey by the directors in a special New York Curb went to the office of meeting yesterday. In promoting him from the vice-presidency and treasurer- day to settle their accounts and place ship they followed both their own inclinataions and the expressed desire of door locked. the late John D. Archbold, whom Mr Bedford succeeds. It had been expected for several years that Mr. Bedford would follow Mr. Archbold as head of the cerporataion.

As is the rule with Standard Ot executives, Mr. Bedford has climbed by dint of hard work and ability from the lowest rung of the ladder. The Hedfords are known as "a Standard Oil family," but each of them who has attained prominence in the affairs of the Standard of related companies has done so by r related companies has done so by arnest and intelligent devotion to the

The new president is 52 years old. He was born in Brooklyn, attended Adelphi College and then studied in England. Germany and Switzerland. At the age of 18 he got his first job—a small position with the Bergen I oint Chemical Company, a Standard Oil subsidiary.

Rise is Steady and Rapid.

A few years later he became general manager of Charles Pratt & Co. His rise was steady and rapid, but attracted no public notice until 1997, when he en-tered the directorate of the Standard Oil Company of New Jersey.

In 1911 the thirty-four Standard Of companies were separated by Govern-ment decree. John D. Rockefeller re-tired from the presidency of the parent concern, John D. Archbold took his place and, in the reorganization, Mr. Bedford was made treasurer and one of the three

He Is a Thorough Democrat. Upon the death of James A. Moffett he became first vice-president, and in re-cent years he has, next to Mr. Archbold

been the most active figure in the man-agement of the company's affairs. His election to the presidency was accepted as a matter of course in Wall Street when Mr. Archbold died. Among other traits which make him extremely popumills at La Croyere and twenty-five who resigned from the directorate of the Standard Oil Group.

were taken from the 130 employed at the bolt works at La Louviere.

"From the Compagnie Centrale de Construction at Haine St. Pierre twenty
vice-president of the Standard Oil Com-

> pany of New Jersey. Owns Sixteen Shares of Stock.

Alfred C. Bedford is listed as owning only sixteen shares of Standard Oil stock, worth \$32,000. He is president

of the Self-Winding Clock Company and a director of the Electric Bond and Share Company, the Fortland Raliway, Light and Power Company and the Thrift of Brooklyn.

He is chairman of the board of trustees of Emanuel Baptist Church in Brooklyn and is identified with the Y. M. C. A. and the work of Fratt Institute. His clubs are the Metropolitan, the Bankers, the Riding and Driving and the Downtown Association of Manhattan: the Rembrandt and the Twentieth Century clubs of Brooklyn, the Fiping.

not he married Miss Edith Kinsman Clarke of Brooklyn in January, 1830.

They have two sons. The Bedford home is at 410 Clinton avenue, Brooklyn.

AS CURB FIRM FAILS

Fieldsteel & Co. Said to Owe \$100,000 to Several Hundred Women and Men.

ELECTED BY DIRECTORS BOOKS NOT IN THE OFFICE

Brooklyn Man, 52 Years Old, Trouble Laid to Slump in the Stock Market-Involuntary Petition Filed.

> who have been trading in stocks on the Fieldsteel & Co., 50 Broad street, yesterfurther orders they found the office

door locked.

Several of them got together during the day, engaged a tayer, and at five minutes to 4 o'clock in the afternoon filed an involuntary petition in bankruptcy against Fieldsteel & Co. and Charles N. Fieldsteel individually. It is their general contention in the court proceedings that customers have credits of \$100,000 with the firm and that the assets are but \$100. The petitioning creditors are William U. Werner, who claims a debt of \$5,000: Isaac Ymopfsky, with a claim of \$1,000, and Jacob D.

claims a debt of \$5,000; Isaac Ymopfsky, with a claim of \$1,000, and Jacob D. Sacks, with a claim of \$500.

Arthur Leonard Rosenberg, 100 Broadway, attorney for the creditors, said he attempted to find some assets of Fieldsteel & Co., but that all he could find was some second hand office furniture at 50 Broad street. He said the books of the company had been removed and added:

stocks and when the market started slumping he just naturally lost every-thing he had. We have found out that on Thursday morning, when the market was going down rapidly, he borrowed several thousand dollars from his

Orders Not Filled.

"We have found, too, that many orders placed with the company were un-filled in any market. He just took the customers' money and took a chance on the market going down. We have named lieve that \$100,000 due several hundred men and women customers of this curb firm is a conservative estimate."

The attorney said he would apply to-day to United States Commissioner A. L. Glichrist, Jr., for an order to examine Fieldsteel, his brother, Charles; L. De Forrest, cashier; Herman S. Osterweil and Otto A. Glassberg, formerly well and Otto A. Glassberg, formerly his attorney, as to the affairs of the firm. "The creditors are angry and are determined to go to the bottom of this affair." said Mr. Rosenberg. "It is going to be a sad Christmas for them." Alfred J. Talley, attorney at 165 Broadway, who has been retained by Fieldsteel & Co. said he would produce his client in court at any time. "This

Fieldsteel & Co., said he would purchas his client in court at any time. "This runpor that Mr. Fieldsteel has 'skipped' with a lot of money is all norsens." he said. Rumors about the concern have been circulated downtown for some time by Mr. Fieldsteel's enemies. They got to his customers. His creditors became excited at these rumors and all in for their money at the same. There is not a brokerage house we York that could pay off if all customers applied for their balances ; he same time.

Mr. Talley said Fieldsteel is in New York, but he could not say whether he is solvent, nor did he know, he said, where the books of the firm are now

The cashier of the firm spent a few hours outside of 50 Broad street res-terday afternoon, but could not get into the office as he had no key. He consoled creditors as they appeared to rattl door. "I know Charlie has not ru

"Oh, I should say between \$40,00

years, and formerly maintained an office in Boston. This is said to have been closed recently. It has been identified

with the sale of a large number of mining securities to small investors.

Most of the customers are men and
women of small resources, but the firm
has evidently been doing a prosperous
business. Its offices—a large suite on
the fourteenth floor of 50 Broad street—
are well furnished, and a large staff of
clerks and stenographers has been maintained. **VAN NORDEN FAMILY** FEUD IS SETTLED

Clerks of the firm were unable to shed any light on the exact losses of Field-steel in the last two or three days, or the securities in which he was inter-Warner M. Gives Checks to His Creditors and Those of Father's Estate. "On just what stocks was your em-

U.S. HUMILIATED BY

NOTE, SAYS PERKINS

Hypocrisy, Lansing's State-

ment Incompetency.

"When I read the statement Mr. Lan-

which he said he did not intend to indi-mate that our Government was consid-ering any change in its policy of neu-trality, and added, 'I regret that my

words were open to any other construc-ion, as I now realize that they were, magine our Secretary of State saying to

Queens Election Jan. 23.

Mr. Perkins.

ABOUT \$200,000 INVOLVED

asked.
"My goodness! everything," was the answer. "Steel, leather, copper—everything. That peace talk sure put us to the bad."

The rumor that the firm has been on the financial rocks has been circulated in the Street for two weeks. Mr. Fieldsteel denied it several times recently. "Young man," was the answer he always gave inquiring newspaper report-Dispute Due to Certain Provisions of the Parent's Seventh Will.

> A family dispute which started nearly three years ago was settled yesterday when Warner Montagnie Van Norden, once president of the Van Norden Trust company, met all his creditors and those of his father's estate and handed them checks in return for general releases. It was said that about \$200,000 was in-

The meeting was held in the office of Mr. Van Norden's attorney, Albert Kerr of Zabriskie, Murray, Sage & Kerr, at 49 Wall street. Among the persons present were representatives of Mr. Van Norden's brother and sister, the Rev. Theodore Langdon Van Norden, a Presbyterian minister, of Westchester county, and Miss Cora Langdon Van Norden. The latter is now engaged in Red Cross work in Serbia. President's Letter Breathes George W. Perkins said yesterday that President Wilson's note breathes hypoc-

risy, while the statements of Secretary Lansing breathe incompetency. The three documents have filled the American cup of humiliation full to overflowing, said made by Warner Van Norden, the father of the three, who died January 1, 1914. He was the founder of the Van Norden Trust Company and at one time part owner of the National Bank of North America. He sold out his interests in the bank in 1910, at which time his son Warner retired from the presidency of the institution. Before the elder Van Norden's death the trust company was merged with the Carnegie Trust Commade by Warner Van Norden, the father His statement follows:
"Why ask me what I think of the perormances of the President and his secretary of State during the last fortyeight hours, when any schoolboy ought to have enough intelligence and patrio-tism to blush with shame at their actions?
"In the first place the President's letter was weak and pointless and offered a gratuitous insult to the Allies when he said, 'Each side desires to make the rights and privileges of weak people and smaller States secure.' The letter bears every indication of having been written for the sole purpose of butting into a situation. No wonder London prevented the publication of the note on its receipt.

Enables a Bank to Reopen.

Just prior to the panic of 1907 War-ner Van Norden, Sr., bought from Charles W. Morse the control of the Nineteenth National Bank of Harlem. The strain of the panic was too much for son, according to statements made since the dispute among the children began, advanced \$900,000 from his own pocket, sing issued at noon yesterday I could scarcely believe my eyes. It bears all

enabling the bank to reopen.

This, Warner Montagnie Van Norden the earmarks of a man who is rattled and incompetent. Within six or eight hours be practically took back his first statement by issuing a second one, in which he said he did not intend to inti-mate that our Government was says, was only the first of many demands made upon him. He asserts that to protect his father's realty holdings in the Dyckman tract and in Thirty-fourth street he gave \$2,000,000, aided the business of the bank and the trust company then existing, by transferring more than \$3,000,000 from his private account, and gave his father more than \$1,000,000 in cash, real estate and securities when these institutions were sold

the entire civilized world that he did not realize the meaning of words he had used in an important pronunciamento un-Pather and son had entered into an agreement, the latter says, in which the senior Van Norden stipulated the wordtil the meaning was pointed out to him by others. It would be hard to find a miore marked instance of incompetency than this. ing of his will and promised new "Mr. Wilson's note breathes hypocrisy.
Mr. Lansing's statements breathe incompetency. Imagine the United States
of America standing before the world at
this great hour of peril and crisis, repreprised to find that his brother and sister had been named as executors and that the father had entered a claim of \$800,-000 against him, which he was directed to pay to the estate "if he can." This amount was to be divided between the sister and brother. Little remained of the estate besides this. sented by two such men. Surely our cup of humiliation is full to overflowing."

Appeal to the Courts.

ALBANT, Dec. 22.—An order fixing January 22 as the date for a special election in Queens county to fill the vacancy in the office of Sheriff was issued by Gov. Whitman to-day. The vacancy was caused by the death of Sheriff Paul Stier, who was shot when attempting to make an arrest October 23 last. Warner M. Van Norden offered to atwarner M. Van Norden offered to at-tend to the settlement of the estate if the brother and sister would refuse to qualify as executors. They not only rejected this proposal, but started suit-against both Warner and his wife. They lost the action against Mrs. Van Norden.

In May last Mrs. Van Norden asked In May last Mrs. Van Norden asked for an accounting of the estate. Then the minister and the Red Cross worker took steps looking toward an abandon-ment of hostilities. They agreed to re-turn to Mrs. Van Norden valuable prop-erty, including a part of the Jay estate, near Rye, and Warner relinquished all his claims. Yesterday's payments, with the delivery of the releases, constituted the signing of the final peace protocol.

who was awarded a counter judgment.
In resisting the suit against him Warner instituted an action against the estate for \$2,500,000.

The suit against the estate of the suit against the the arrest of two women who, he said, had robbed him of \$28,000 in front of the Waldorf, but the case was dropped. the Waldorf, but the case was dropped.

In recent years Mr. Van Norden has been secretary of the Lotos Tea Concern, Inc., which operates a tea shop de luxe in Lexinston avenue near Fifty-seventh street. He said last night that the war has helped his business greatly. He is a member of several clubs. Mr. and Mrs. Van Norden live at the home of the lutter's mother, Mrs. James Talof the latter's mother, Mrs. James Tal-Though he is only 44 years old, War-ner M. Van Norden has been conspicu-cott, at 7 West Fifty-seventh street.

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In almost every color combination and design, each scarf bearing the Saks-Service band, which prevents it from wear-

1,200 Silk Scarfs at 69c

ing where the strain is greatest. 1,200 Silk Scarfs at 39c

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